DC COMICS
#3A
OF 6
BEYOND THE
FRINGE
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-11-
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BEYOND THE FRINGE

Peter and the Machine
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Violet Sedan Chair lyrics reprinted courtesy of 13th Tone Music.

YOU ARE AT THE END NOW. IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO CHOOSE.

CHOOSE WHAT? I DON'T UNDERSTAND... HOW DO I BREAK THE LOOP? HOW DO I SAVE THEM?

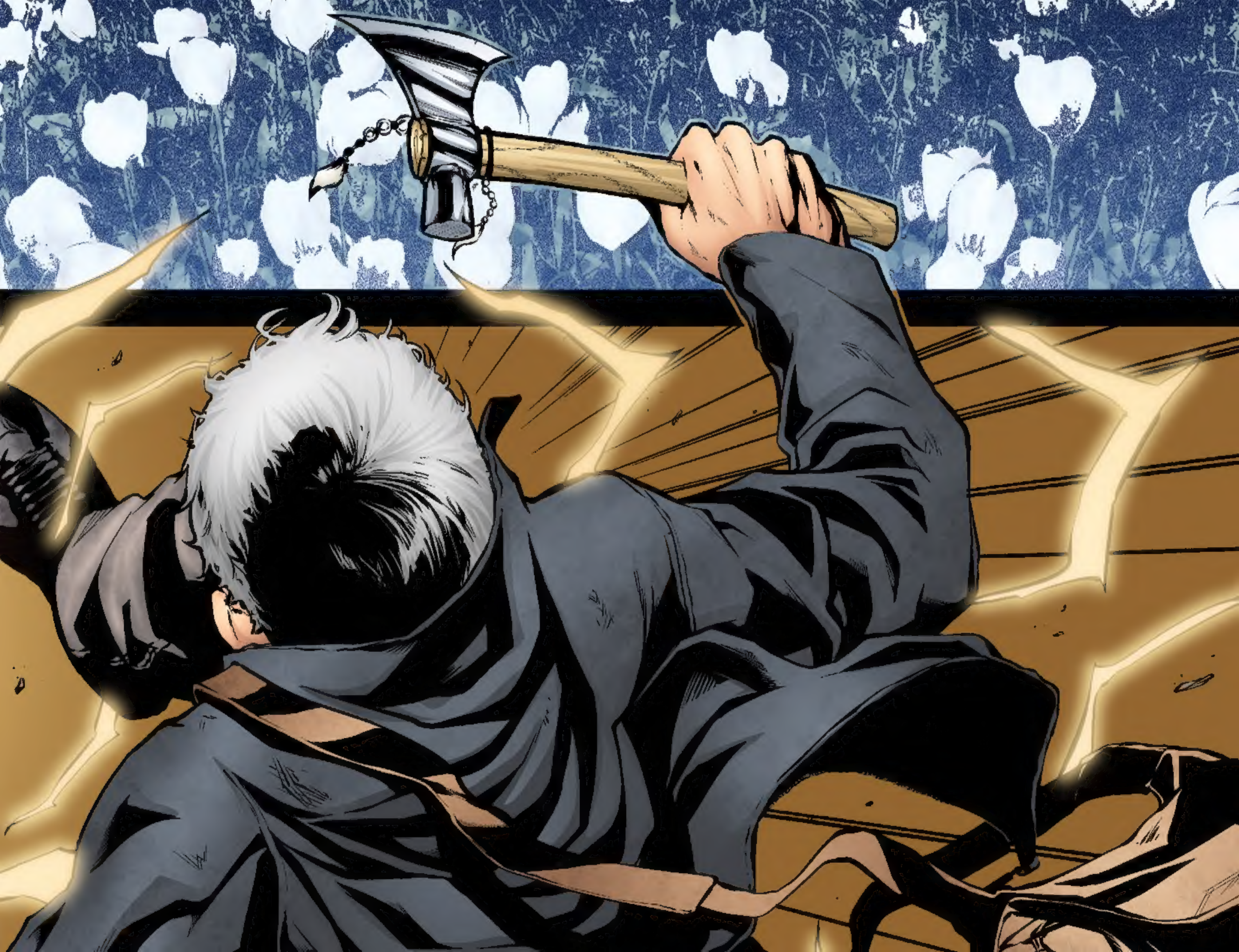
TO SAVE THEM? *THAT* IS YOUR CHOICE?

OF COURSE. I WOULD DO ANYTHING TO SAVE THEM.

THIS WAS AS WE HAD FORESEEN. BUT PERHAPS BEFORE YOU MAKE YOUR DECISION YOU WOULD ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING?

NOT *THAT* AGAIN. NO MORE RIDDLES. JUST TELL ME WHAT I NEED TO DO.

WHY ARE YOU BISHOPS ALWAYS SO *STUBBORN?*



WHAT IS THIS?

THIS IS WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN WORKING SO HARD TO SAVE.

OLIVIA? AND IS THAT... ME?

THERE IS *MORE* I WANT TO SHOW YOU. YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.

SHE'S DOIN' FINE ALL THE TIME
SHE LOOKS A LOT LIKE ALICE
WITH NOWHERE TO GO
AND NO WHITE RABBIT TO FOLLOW...

WALTER?

AAAAAHHHHH!!

NOOOOOO. WHAT MORE DO YOU WANT? I SACRIFICED *EVERYTHING* FOR YOU. *ALL GONE!* MY WORK, MY WIFE. AND CARLA, POOR POOR CARLA.

WALTER GET OFF OF ME...

I'M COMING BACK FOR YOU, WALTER. JUST HANG ON. I *WILL* COME FOR YOU.

TIME TO GO.

WHY DID YOU DO THAT TO HIM? ISN'T HE SUFFERING ENOUGH?

DID I CAUSE HIM TO SUFFER?

SSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS

I NEED YOU TO SEE THE CONSEQUENCES YOUR CHOICE WILL HAVE... TO SEE BOTH SIDES OF THE EQUATION.

WHY DID YOU BRING ME HOME?

FSSSSSSSHHH

FSSSSSSSHHH

DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING! YOU HAVE DONE ENOUGH DAMAGE TO THE TIMELINE ALREADY...AND THEY CANNOT KNOW YOU'RE HERE OR ALL IS LOST.

PLINK

OKAY, HAVE IT YOUR WAY. BUT MY MOM'S GOING TO BE PISSED WHEN SHE FINDS OUT YOU LET HER NEW LINO GET RUINED.

FOLLOW ME.

RRRRRRRRRRRRRRR

NO!

NOOOOO!

RRRR

WHY?

YOU SONUVABITCH. WHAT KIND OF SICK GAME IS THIS? WHY DID YOU BRING ME HERE?

CONSEQUENCES. YOU MUST WEIGH THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR CHOICE. WITH EVERY ACTION THERE ARE UNFORESEEN REACTIONS, RIPPLES THROUGH TIME.

BUT I HAVE MADE MY CHOICE. I CAN'T SAVE HER, BUT I CAN SAVE THE REST. WALTER, OLIVIA.

AND THIS CHOICE HAS LED YOU HERE. OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

THE TWO UNIVERSES MUST BE IN HARMONY. THE EQUATION MUST BALANCE. THIS TRUTH IS CONSTANT: WHEN THERE IS IMBALANCE, THE EQUATION WILL SHIFT TO CORRECT, UNTIL IT REGAINS ITS HARMONY.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? PLEASE, JUST TELL ME HOW TO *FIX* THIS. I CAN'T PLAY YOUR GAME ANYMORE. I JUST WANT TO SAVE MY FAMILY.

YES, IT MUST BE DIFFICULT BEING A FATHER.

OOPS.

HEY, PASS IT HERE, MISTER.

THANKS, MISTER.

NO PROBLEM, SON.

HENRY, COME ON BACK OVER HERE, BUDDY! LEAVE THE NICE MEN ALONE.

COMING, UNCLE LINC.

YOU WERE WILLING TO SACRIFICE THEM ALL. THEIR ENTIRE UNIVERSE. AND STILL YOU ARE HERE, AGAIN.

SO WHAT DO I DO? HOW CAN I BREAK THE LOOP AND *"BALANCE THE EQUATION"*? WHAT'S THE ANSWER?

YOU ARE THE ANSWER, PETER.

OUR TIME IS NEARLY UP.

HENRY, HUH?

DO YOU SEE IT NOW? DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE CHOICE BEFORE YOU?

YES, I HAVE TO STOP MYSELF FROM DESTROYING THE UNIVERSE. TO USE THE MACHINE TO...

TO DO WHAT? IT IS A MACHINE, IT CAN ONLY PERFORM THE TASKS IT WAS DESIGNED FOR. THE DEGRADATION OF THESE TWO UNIVERSES WILL CONTINUE. UNTIL THE EQUATION IS BALANCED. THERE IS ONLY ONE VALUE OUT OF PLACE.

ME. I AM WHAT IS OUT OF PLACE.

AND NOW YOU SEE YOUR CHOICE. EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING THAT YOU LOVE CAN SURVIVE. YOUR WORLD AND THEIRS. THEY CAN HAVE THEIR LIVES. BUT THEY CANNOT HAVE YOU. AND YOU CANNOT HAVE THEM.

SO HOW DO I DO IT?

CHOOSE ***BALANCE.*** THE REST WILL FOLLOW. YOU HAVE USED THE MACHINE TO CHOOSE ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER. NOW USE IT TO ***BRIDGE*** THE TWO UNIVERSES. CREATE A FULCRUM TO BALANCE THEM.

BRIDGE THE TWO UNIVERSES. CREATE A FULCRUM TO BALANCE THEM.

WHERE AM I?

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS MINE.

ARE YOU...

YUP.

WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE?

WE GOTTA TALK.

THERE HAS TO BE ANOTHER WAY.

THERE IS. YOU DESTROY YOUR UNIVERSE, EVERYBODY DIES. YOU DESTROY THEIR UNIVERSE, ***EVERYBODY DIES.***

BUT THE MACHINE IS...

WHATEVER YOU MAKE IT. IT AMPLIFIES YOUR DESIRE. MAKES YOUR CHOICE INTO REALITY. I'M GUESSING THAT'S WHY YOU BROUGHT US HERE. YOU FEEL SAFE HERE...SO WE'RE BACK IN THE LAB.

THIS CAN'T BE THE ONLY WAY. I JUST GOT WALTE...MY FATHER BACK AND OLIVIA...IT'S NOT--

FAIR? WAS IT FAIR THE WAY YOU LEFT THAILAND? IRAQ? WHAT YOU DID TO THOSE PEOPLE DOWN IN TENNESSEE? THE COLTAN MINERS? THE MESS YOU LEFT IN MALTA? WAS IT FAIR THE WAY YOU WALKED OUT ON YOUR OWN MOTHER?

ENOUGH...

WHO ARE YOU TRYING TO KID? I KNOW EVERY MISERABLE CHOICE YOU'VE MADE UP UNTIL NOW. YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN FAIR. BUT I ALSO KNOW SOMETHING YOU DON'T. I HAVE SEEN YOUR ABILITY FOR COMPASSION. FOR EMPATHY. TO ACTUALLY LOVE SOMEONE MORE THAN YOURSELF.

"I KNOW THAT YOU CAN BE A GOOD MAN. A GOOD SON, A GOOD HUSBAND."

"HUSBAND?"

"WE GET *MARRIED?*"

"AND SHE IS TAKEN FROM US BECAUSE OF THE CHOICE YOU MADE HERE TONIGHT."

AND WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU?

COLLATERAL DAMAGE... APPARENTLY THERE MAY BE PAIN.

HOW LONG WILL I HAVE TO SAY GOODBYE?

I DON'T KNOW. BUT I'D MAKE IT QUICK IF I WERE YOU.

HUUUMMMMMMMM

MMMMMMMooo

5:2

...YOU'RE ALIVE.

...I UNDERSTAND NOW.

I'VE SEEN DOOMSDAY. AND IT'S WORSE THAN ANYTHING YOU COULD POSSIBLY IMAGINE.

SO I'VE TORN HOLES IN BOTH THE UNIVERSES. AND THEY LEAD HERE, TO THIS ROOM.

A BRIDGE. SO THAT WE CAN BEGIN TO WORK TOGETHER TO FIX...

THE
END

"FRINGE is instantly addicting and makes me want to watch the show." -Ain't It Cool News

FRINGE

J.J. ABRAMS
ALEX KURTZMAN & ROBERTO ORCI
PRESENT
FRINGE
"Instantly addicting and makes me want to watch the show." -Ain't It Cool News

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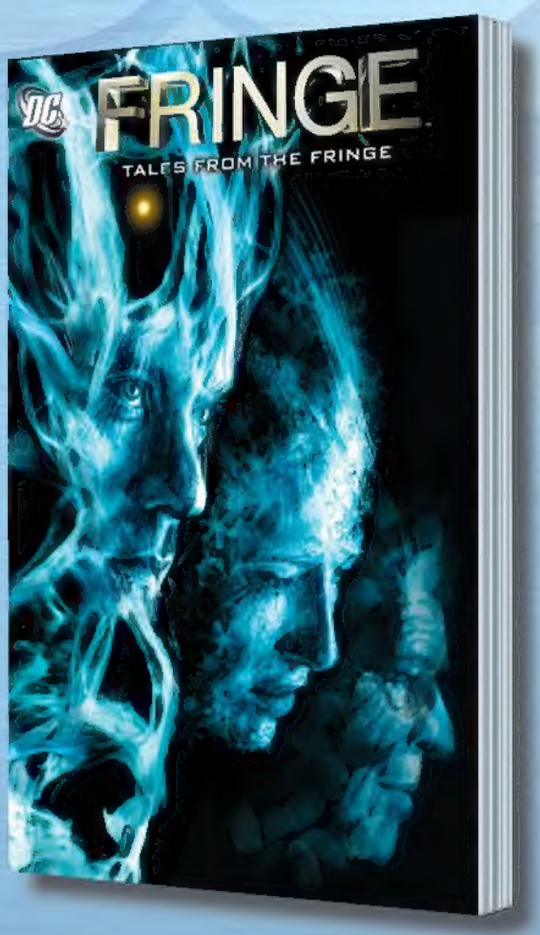

FRINGE: TALES FROM THE FRINGE

Delve into the ongoing sagas of Peter Bishop, Olivia Dunham, Philip Broyles, Astrid Farnsworth, Nina Sharp and Gene the Cow, and discover what drove them to become the people (or bovines) they are today.

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